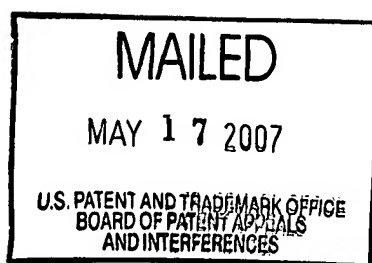


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

---

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

---



Ex parte MALIN E. HOLCOMB,  
DAN ROBERTSON  
and  
JON-MICHAEL KASTEN

---

Application 10/725,048

---

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

---

This application was received electronically at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on March 2, 2007. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being electronically returned to the examiner. The matter requiring attention prior to docketing is identified below.

An examination of the Image File Wrapper (IFW) reveals that a Reply Brief was filed on February 21, 2006. In response, a Supplemental

Examiner's Answer was mailed on May 3, 2006. According to § 1207.05 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) (Eighth Edition, Rev. 3, August 2005), "[e]very supplemental examiner's answer must be approved by a Technology Center (TC) Director or designee." The Supplemental Examiner's Answer mailed May 3, 2006 is deficient because it does not contain the signature of the Technology Center Director. Correction is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is returned to the Examiner:

- 1) to obtain the signature of the Technology Center Director on the Supplemental Examiner's Answer mailed May 3, 2006;
- 2) for notification to appellants regarding the action taken; and
- 3) for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

By: Patrick J. Nolan  
PATRICK J. NOLAN  
Deputy Chief Appeals Administrator  
(571) 272-9797

PJN/psb

Application 10/725,048

Quarles & Brady LLP  
411 E. Wisconsin Avenue  
Suite 2040  
Milwaukee, WI 53202-4497